



The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the
BRONZE STAR MEDAL to

PETTY OFFICER THIRD CLASS MIGUEL A. ESCALERA
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For heroic achievement in connection with operations against the enemy as Platoon Corpsman, 3d Platoon, Company E, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM II on 25 March 2004. While traveling down an isolated side road, 3d Platoon began to receive heavy machine gun and small arms fire from less than 20 feet away. In the opening seconds of the engagement, three Marines were wounded by enemy fire. Realizing this, Petty Officer Third Class Escalera braved a hail of enemy bullets on three separate occasions in order to move the wounded Marines to safety. Once the wounded Marines were out of the line of enemy fire, he noted that one of the Marines was bleeding. He subsequently rendered life saving first aid. Hospital Corpsman Third Class Escalera then became aware of a fourth wounded Marine. Without hesitation he dashed to the wounded Marine's aid. As he treated his fallen comrade, he shielded the Marine's body with his own, thus preventing his further injury from the still intense enemy fire. By his zealous initiative, courageous actions, and exceptional dedication to duty, Petty Officer Third Class Escalera reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

The Combat Distinguishing Device is authorized.

For the President,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James T. Conway". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "J".

JAMES T. CONWAY
LIEUTENANT GENERAL, U.S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING GENERAL, I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
HAS AWARDED THE

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

(WITH COMBAT DISTINGUISHING DEVICE)

TO

PETTY OFFICER THIRD CLASS MIGUEL A. ESCALERA, UNITED STATES NAVY

FOR

HEROIC ACHIEVEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH COMBAT OPERATIONS
ON 25 MARCH 2004



GIVEN THIS 25TH DAY OF AUGUST 2004

James T. Conway
FOR THE PRESIDENT
JAMES T. CONWAY
LIEUTENANT GENERAL, U.S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING GENERAL
I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE